

Science

We will begin our Science curriculum with Matter and Energy. In this unit we will learn that energy is the causal agent behind every action or activity. We will explore sources of energy, such as the Sun, batteries, fuels, and food and identify forms of energy, such as electricity, heat, light, sound, and moving masses.

We will be developing the idea that matter is the substance of which all physical objects are composed of and energy is the ability to do work. Our study of matter will extend to phase changes, including melting and evaporation. Your child is probably familiar with phase changes in water (ice to water to water vapor) but they will learn that these progressions also apply to thousands of materials, ranging from oxygen to rock.

You can help your child by asking him or her to share the ideas we are working on to extend the ideas to matter and energy at home. Following are some simple assignments to reinforce the concepts that your child is learning in the class. These might stimulate some interesting conversations and possibly an investigation of your own that relates to the science work we are doing in class.

The Science investigations will be in the Chinese class. Students will watch Science video clips to develop their Science background information. During the hands-on Science investigations, students work cooperatively in their groups and complete their Science notebooks. The assessments for Matter and Energy will be in English this trimester.

Investigations

Due Thursday February 8th, 2018

Investigation 1: Please explore five different sources of energy at home and complete the following chart

物、品 / Object	什麼能源？ What was the energy source?	哪種能量？ What kind of energy?	轉換成哪種能量？ Convert into what energy?
e.g. 手電筒 / Flashlight	電池 / Batteries	電 / Electricity	光 / Light

Investigation 2:

	固體 / Solid	氣體 / Gas	液體 / Liquid
eg.	糖 / sugar	瓶子裡的空氣 / the air in the jar	果汁 / juice

Investigation 3 (Optional)

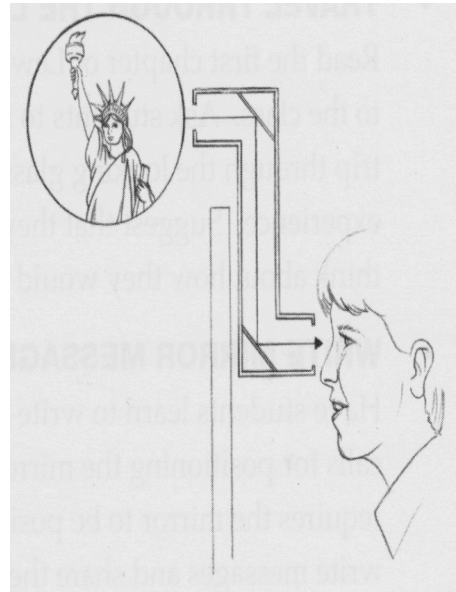
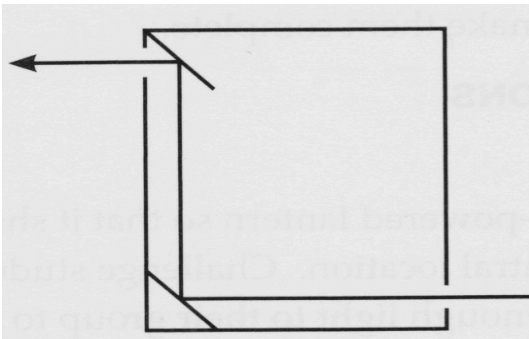
In the classroom, they will learn that a mirror can be used to reflect light to change its direction of travel. Your child will learn about reflected light using mirrors to reflect a bright spot onto walls and discover ways to see objects behind him or her.

You may have your child do the following activities at home to reinforce what he or she learned in class.

1. Make A Periscope:

A periscope is a tube with a mirror at each end. It works by following two basic principles. One is that light travels in a straight line. The other is the law of reflection, that the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection. In a periscope, the far mirror is pointed at an object. Light from the object reflects off the far mirror. The light bounces onto the closer mirror and then into the eyes of observer.

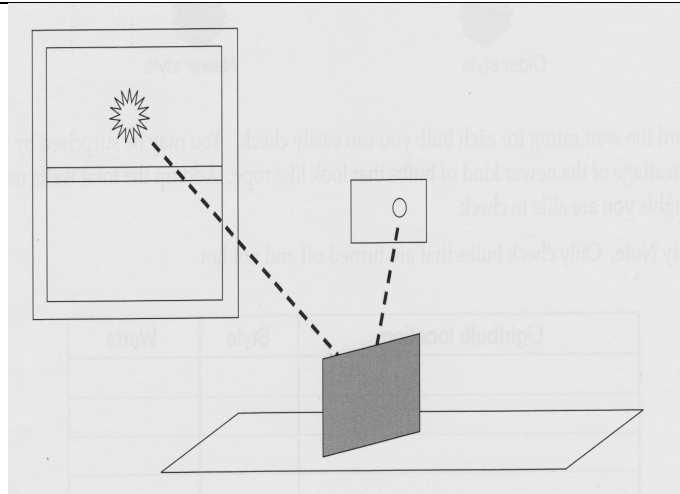
You can make a cereal-box periscope with a box and two mirrors.



2. Observe Earth Turning

Find a window where there is light from the Sun shining in. Position a mirror to reflect sunlight onto a wall. Tape a piece of paper there. Mark the center of the reflection of the Sun. Wait 10 minutes and mark the center of the reflection again. Answer and analyze: Did the reflection move on the paper? Why?

Safety Note. Never look direction at the Sun or reflect sunlight in a person's eyes; both can damage your eyes.



Social Studies

This trimester, your child will also study “Land and Water in Your Area.” This unit includes topics such as:

- Physical features - deserts, mountains, and oceans
- The desert region has many flat, low areas.
- The valley region is flat, and rivers flow through it.
- The coast region has mountains, hills and cliffs.
- The mountain region has mountains and lakes.
- People use the things in our region to meet their needs.
- Sometimes people change the environment to help meet their needs.
- Many reasons to protect the environment.

Family Activities:

Discuss whether you live in a desert, coast, mountain, or valley region. Which of your community’s features help you to know that?

Learn Together

Help your child learn how people and their environments affect each other

- How has your family change your home (by rearranging furniture, for example) to improve the way you live? How is this similar or different to changing the environment of a region to meet people’s needs?
- Draw a map of your home or a room in your home. On the map, show where different resources can found, such as flashlights, towels, food, or books.
- List how your family helps protect the environment (for example, recycling). Then find out other ways you can help the environment and implement one of these ideas.

Read Together

Types of Maps, by Mary Dodson Wade. (scholastic Library Publishing ISBN 0-516-27768-5, 2003) Nonfiction

Letters Home from Yosemite, by Lisa Halvorsen. (Gale Group, ISBN 1-56711-462-8, 2000)

Dams, by Chris Oxlade. (Heineman Library, ISBN 1-57572-277-1, 2000) Nonfiction

Chinese Oral Language How-to Oral Presentation

The presentation schedule will be announced with the presentation packet.

The specific date of your child's oral presentation will be announced in your child's agenda.

Your child will give a “How to” oral presentation.

Things needed to be included in the presentation

- A brief introduction including your child's name and topic of presentation
- It has to be at least 3 minutes
- A clearly sequenced presentation by using transition words that will be reviewed in the class

Suggestions that your child can include in his or her oral presentation.

- Choose a topic that he or she is good at or he or she is interested in.
- Be well prepared to ease his or her nervousness. He or she can practice to himself or herself or anybody in your family. During the practice, please time himself or herself.
- Interesting attention getter at the beginning of his or her introduction to attract audience's attention. It can be a personal story, prompts relevant to audience, etc.
- Avoid unnecessary lag time. For example, if your child is demonstrating how to make a sandwich while he or she is waiting for the toast, he or she can explain other steps such as spreading pre-cut square lettuces nice and flat on the plate, preparing the turkey meat, putting two slices of tomato on the top, etc.
- Prepare an outline of the presentation to avoid reading from scripts.
- Visual aids (maps, photos, films etc.,) arranged in sequence can help him or her be more organized

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Chinese Language Arts

In the second trimester, we will cover the following Chinese lessons

第四課、Lesson 4 - Oceanic World

第五課、Lesson 5 - A Scarf for Grandma

第六課、Lesson 6 - North Wind and the Sun

Tests

Science

Science investigations 1 and 2 are due on Thursday February 8th 2018

The assessment will be in English

Social Studies

Quiz 1 : Friday January 19th

Quiz 2 : Friday, February 2nd

Quiz 3 : Friday, February 16th.

Quiz 4: Friday, March 2nd

Chinese character dictation:

Lesson 4: Friday, January 12th

Lesson 5: Friday, February 9th

Lesson 6: Friday, March 9th

Chinese “How to “ oral presentation: is scheduled between February 8th to February 16th. Please refer to presentation schedule for the date of your child’s presentation.